What is claimed is:

1. A virtual file system which provides mirroring and linking of two physical file systems, comprising:

means for mounting components of each of said two physical file systems in a single directory; and

a virtual file system data structure containing elements which respectively correspond to each of the mounted components, each of said elements having an application interface data structure with two associated pointers that respectively point to application interface data structures of a corresponding component in each of said two physical file systems.

2. The virtual file system of claim 1, wherein said application interface data structures correspond to a vnode structure.

3. The virtual file system of claim 1, wherein said components comprise directories and files.

4. A method for sharing files in a computer system, comprising the steps of:

mounting components of each of two physical file systems in a single directory, such that a copy of each component is stored in each of said two physical file systems;

receiving a request to perform a write operation on one of said components; and

performing said write operation on both copies of said one component in said two physical file systems, respectively, in real time in response to said request.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said request designates said one component, on which the write operation is to be performed, by means of a path name that is common to both of said physical file systems.

6. The method of claim 4 wherein the steps of performing said write operation includes the steps of acquiring a lock for each copy of said one component, and inhibiting said write operation until both locks can be acquired.